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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY INFORMATION REPORT

COUNTRY Eulgaria

Military and Political Training in the Bulgarian Army/ SUBJECT Textbooks Used

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SUPP. TO REPORT NO. 50X1-HUM

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THE UNITED STATES, WITHIN THEMSEARING OF TITLE IS. SECTIONS 78

IND 784, OF THE U.S. CODE, AS AMENDED. ITS TRANSMISSION OF REVE ATION OF ITS CONTENTS TO OR RECEIPT BY AN UNJUTHORIZED PERSON I

- "Each year of military service in the Bulgarian Army is divided into two training periods: one from May to the end of September and the other from 1 Dec to 15 Apr. Each of these two training periods emis with on inspection made by officers of the General Staff of the Ministry of National Desense or officers of an army or division, specially assigned by the Ministry for the purpose, who conduct exeminations of soluters.
- "At the completion of each training period, military units stationed in the prefrontier areas are disputched to the frontier for practical fortification training. After the end of the first training period the units remain at the frontier through Out and long after the second period from 10 Apr to 25 or 28 Apr.
- "The outlines of training programs come from above. They are elaborated on by 3. General Staffs of regiments and finally handed by battalion COs to company COs each week. The COs of companies in turn prepare a practical program of training for each week and send it for approval to CCs of battalians. Such an approved program is then realized on the level of a company.
- "Political training of Pulgarian soldiers is taken very seriously. Lectures on 4. political matters are conducted three time a week, on Monday, Wednesday and Saturday, each time for two hours, at the very beginning of the day's chores when the minds of soldiers are fresh. Generally, political training consists of a three-year course and is different for every military age group.
- "Political training is conducted on the basis of special textbooks issued by the Ministry of National Defense. Each soldier receives such a textbook, a notebook and a pencil free of charge. Sometimes there are not enough books. In such case In such cases books are issued to more educated soldiers who are obliged to read them to the others.
- "For soldiers of the first year of military service there is a book called: 6. "Zashtita Na Otechestvo To Sveszten Dalg Za Vseki Boyets Pred Partiets I U.S. Officials Only

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Sotsyalistichesko Pravitelstvo' (Defense of Fatherland a Sacred Duty of Every Sollier Towards the Party and the Socialist Government). For further years in the military service the following books are in use: 'Nashata Sotsyalisticheska Rodina' (Our Socialist Fatherland), or 'Bogata Ye I Krasiva Nasha Rodina' (Rich and Beautiful is Our Fatherland), and others.

- 7. "The first book has the following chapters:
 - a) "Chapter 1: 'Balgarska Nerodna Armia Sazdadena Pod Rakovodstvo Na Partiata I Georgi Dimitrov' (Bulgarian People's Army Created Under the Leadership of the Party and G Dimitrov). In the text there is a story of the suppression of the Communist coup in 1923; the establishment of 'Fascist' regimes in Bulgaria; the passing of the CP to illegal, underground activities, and its work in the Bulgarian Army; the Ratherland Front program of 1942; the coup of 9 Sept 44; a story of the fight against Fascist Germany conducted under the leadership of political commissars and about the victory sustained over Germany; about the activities of Damian Valchev; about the organization of'Fascist, nationalistic' military organizations, Neutralen Offitser and Iser Krum; about partisans as a nucleus for the present Bulgarian People's Army; about the efforts made by the bourgeoisie to overthrow the 'People's' regime in Bulgaria with the help of Fascist officers; about the creation of a new Bulgarian army, based on the model of the Soviet Army, with the help and assistance given by the USSR, etc. This chapter has about 20 pages.
 - b) "Chapter 2 has the title: 'Nashata Redina Ye Narodna Republika Balgaria' (Our Fatherland is Bulgarian People's Republic). It contains about 10 pages and deals with the following matters: the definition of the word 'fatherland', description of the internal structure of the state, the history of the 'liberation' from the 'capitalistic yoke', changes which occurred in the country after 9 Sep 44, description of building of 'socialism' in Bulgaria, etc.
 - c) "Chapter 3 contains about eight pages and deals with military and state secrets. According to the text there are three categories of secrets:
 - 1) "A military secret is any information of a military nature such as:
 Arms used by soldiers, military training, duties and chores in the barracks, locations of points of military and strategic importance,
 locations of dumps and stores, names of officers, all facts and events
 which take place in barracks and outside them.
 - 2) "An economic secret is any information relating to the country's economy, as building of roads, plants, production capacity and output of the latter, carrying capacity of bridges, etc.
 - 3) "A state secret is any secret which concerns the state.

"Further in the chapter there is a description of espionage. According to the text there are also three types of espionage: Military, economic and state espionage. A quotation from Stelin to the effect that it's far more difficult to take a military-strategic point by force than /It is/ after weakening it by means of espionage, is included.

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"In order to keep military secrets, every soldier must take great care not to disclose in any way what he sees, does or lives through in the army. He should avoid approaching civilians, talk to them as little as possible, and never mention anything of a military character in his letters. He must always be careful and on guard.

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- 8. "It was a usual procedure for a political officer to hold a lecture for the first two hours on one particular chapter. For the next two hours the soldiers read the same chapter together from a book entitled 'Samostoyatelno Chetene', and finally during the following two hours, the officer examined the soldiers and gave each of them marks in the so called 'Politicheska Kniga' (political book).
- 9. "In the following week the next chapter was in turn dealt with in a similar manner. After the book was finished the whole story was repeated from the first chapter and so it goes during the whole first year of service.
- "In spite of great efforts made by political orficers, the results obtained were rather poor. The soldiers learned a certain number of formulas by heart and that was the end. During 'political inspections' when soldiers were examined on their political indoctrination; has amusing things happened. At such an inspection, an NCO (fnu) Avremov, who considered himself an exemplary Cormunist, was shown a picture of George Dimitrov and asked by the chairman of the commission who he was. Avramov, after a thorough examination of the portrait, said: 'It is you, but a little younger'. All present burst into laughter, and the chairman tried to convince him that it was Dimitrov, but without any success."

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